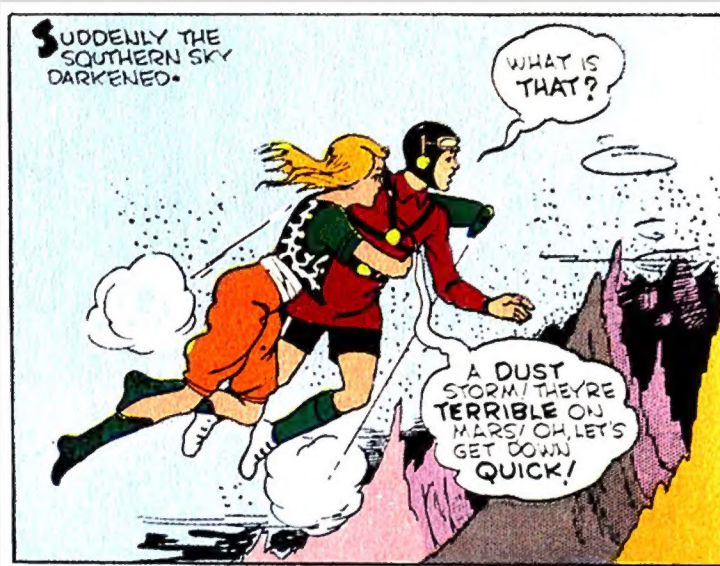


Buck Rogers

25th
CENTURY
A.D.



Sunday Story 01

"Golden Princess of Mars"

March 30, 1930 to June 15, 1930

Series I Strips 1 to 12

by Russell Keaton

GREAT CHANGES

HAD COME OVER THE WORLD SINCE 1930. WHEN BUCK ROGERS SANK INTO A STATE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION AND SLEPT FOR 500 YEARS UNDER THE EFFECTS OF A MYSTERIOUS GAS IN AN ABANDONED MINE. HIS YOUTH AND VIGOR WERE PRESERVED UNDIMINISHED



WHERE AM I?

BUCK ROGERS

IN THE YEAR 2430 A.D.

AND HIS FELLOW ADVENTURERS WILMA,

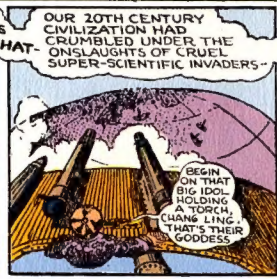
AND HER BROTHER

BUDDY DEERING

WRITTEN BY PHIL KOWALIK
DRAWN BY DICK CALKINS



HE MET A 25TH CENTURY GIRL SOLDIER, WILMA DEERING

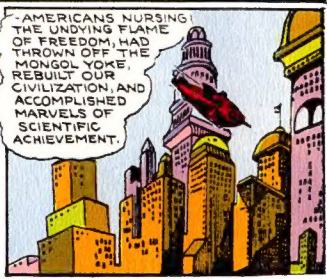


PLenty! HISTORIANS TELL US THAT OUR 20TH CENTURY CIVILIZATION HAD SUNDED UNDER THE ONSLAUGHTS OF CRUEL SUPER-SCIENTIFIC INVADERS

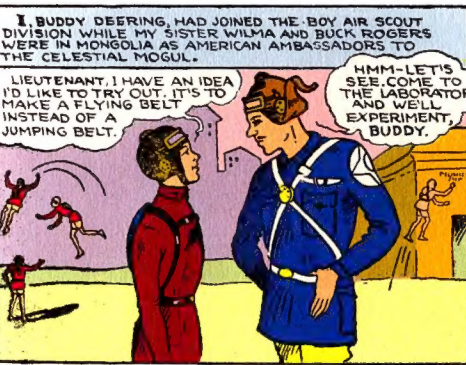


AND THESE RED MONGOLS HAD BECOME MASTERS OF MOST OF THE WORLD. BUT -

YOUR CELESTIAL MAJESTY, WE ARE VICTORIOUS!



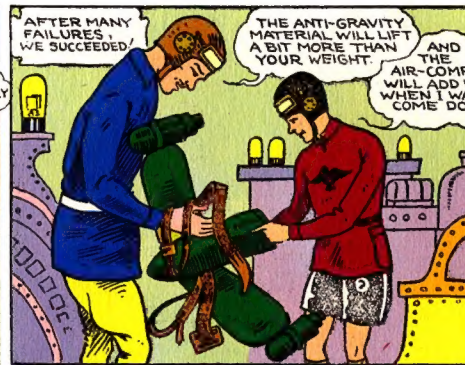
AMERICANS NURSING! THE UNDYING FLAME OF FREEDOM, HAD THROWN OFF THE MONGOL YOKE, REBUILT OUR CIVILIZATION, AND ACCOMPLISHED MARVELS OF SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT.



I, BUDDY DEERING, HAD JOINED THE BOY AIR SCOUT DIVISION WHILE MY SISTER WILMA AND BUCK ROGERS WERE IN MONGOLIA AS AMERICAN AMBASSADORS TO THE CELESTIAL MOGUL.

LIUTENANT, I HAVE AN IDEA I'D LIKE TO TRY OUT. IT'S TO MAKE A FLYING BELT INSTEAD OF A JUMPING BELT.

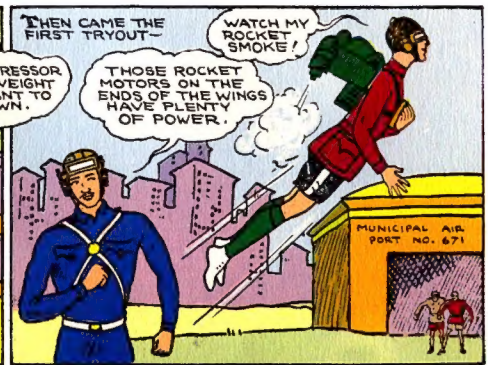
HMM-LET'S SEE-COME TO THE LABORATORY AND WE'LL EXPERIMENT, BUDDY.



AFTER MANY FAILURES WE SUCCEEDED!

THE ANTI-GRAVITY MATERIAL WILL LIFT A BIT MORE THAN YOUR WEIGHT.

AND THE AIR-COMPRESSOR WILL ADD WEIGHT WHEN I WANT TO COME DOWN.



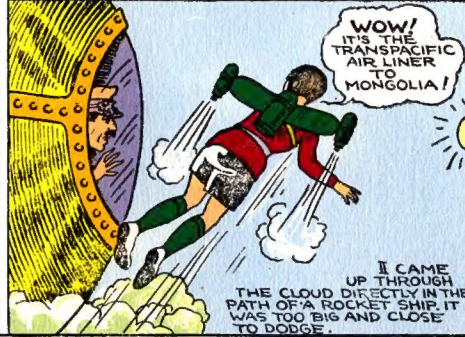
THEN CAME THE FIRST TRYOUT -

THOSE ROCKET MOTORS ON THE ENDS OF THE WINGS HAVE PLENTY OF POWER.

WATCH MY ROCKET SMOKE!

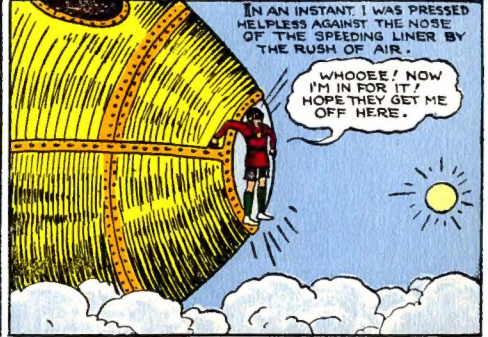


WHIZZING ROCKETS THIS IS GREAT! HERE'S WHERE I SHOOT UP THROUGH THOSE CLOUDS.



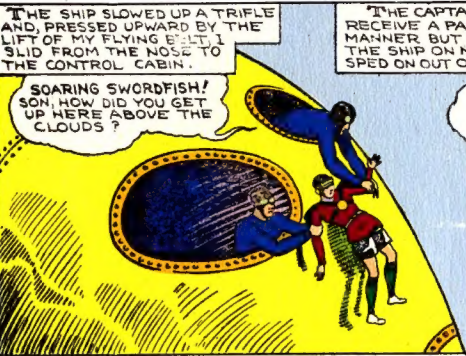
WOW! IT'S THE TRANSPACIFIC AIR LNER TO MONGOLIA!

I CAME UP THROUGH THE CLOUD DIRECTLY IN THE PATH OF A ROCKET SHIP. IT WAS TOO BIG AND CLOSE TO DODGE.



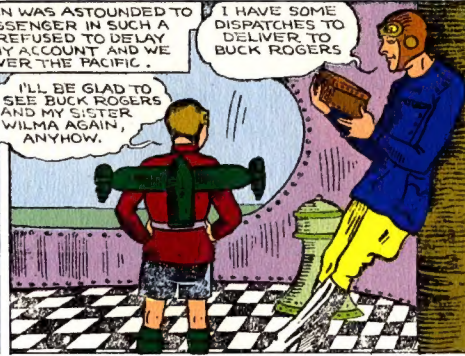
IN AN INSTANT I WAS PRESSED HELPLESS AGAINST THE NOSE OF THE SPEEDING LINER BY THE RUSH OF AIR.

WHOOEE! NOW I'M IN FOR IT! HOPE THEY GET ME OFF HERE.



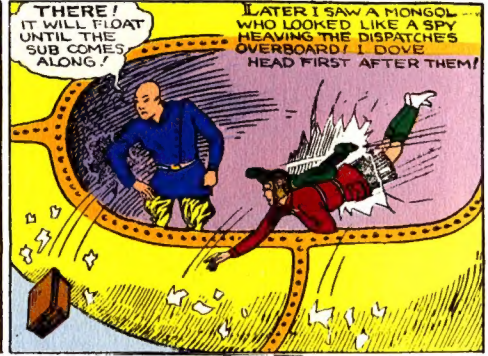
THE SHIP SLOWED UP A TRIFLE AND, PRESSED UPWARD BY THE LIFT OF MY FLYING BELT, I SLID FROM THE NOSE TO THE CONTROL CABIN.

SOARING SWORDFISH! SON, HOW DID YOU GET UP HERE ABOVE THE CLOUDS?



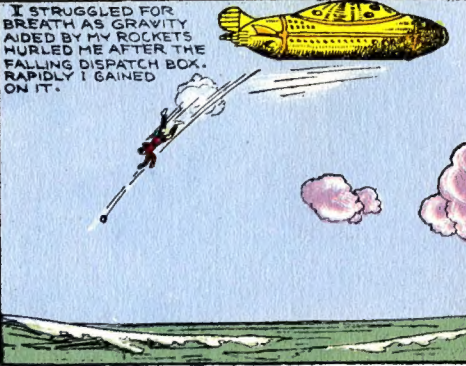
THE CAPTAIN WAS ASTOUNDED TO RECEIVE A PASSENGER IN SUCH A MANNER, BUT REFUSED TO DELAY THE SHIP ON MY ACCOUNT AND WE SPED ON OUT OVER THE PACIFIC.

I'LL BE GLAD TO SEE BUCK ROGERS AND MY SISTER WILMA AGAIN, ANYHOW.

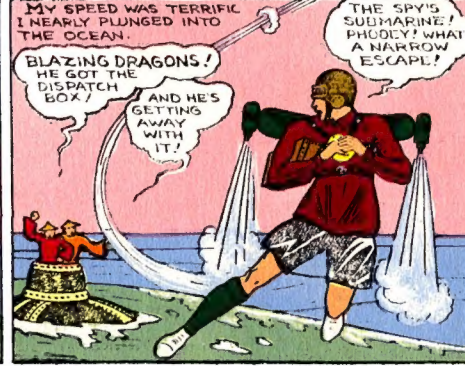


THERE! IT WILL FLOAT UNTIL THE SUB COMES ALONG!

LATER I SAW A MONGOL WHO LOOKED LIKE A SPY HEAVING THE DISPATCHES OVERBOARD! I DROVE HEAD FIRST AFTER THEM!

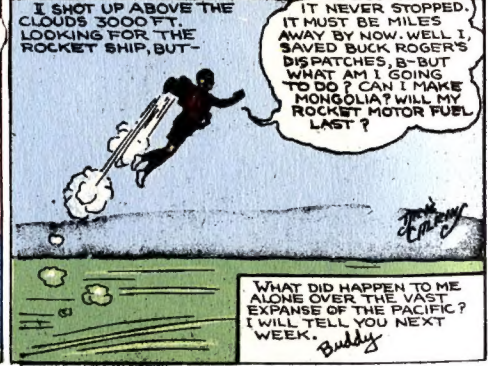


I STRUGGLED FOR BREATH AS GRAVITY AIDED BY MY ROCKETS HURLED ME AFTER THE FALLING DISPATCH BOX. RAPIDLY I GAINED ON IT.



MY SPEED WAS TERRIFIC. I NEARLY PLUNGED INTO THE OCEAN.

BLAZING DRAGONS! HE GOT THE DISPATCH BOX! AND HE'S GETTING AWAY WITH IT!



I SHOT UP ABOVE THE CLOUDS 3000 FT. LOOKING FOR THE ROCKET SHIP, BUT -

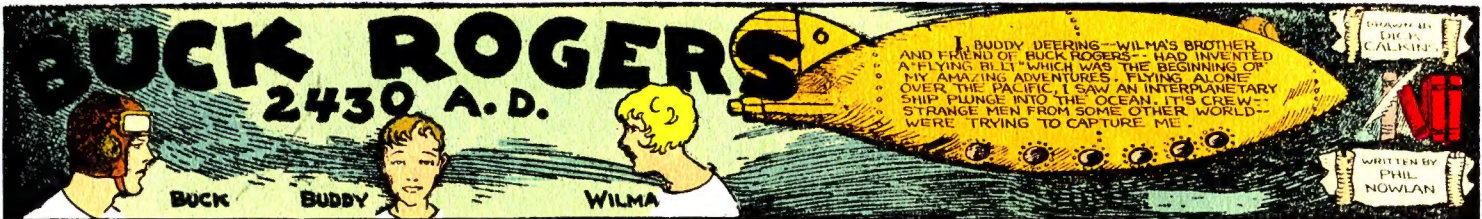
IT NEVER STOPPED. IT MUST BE MILES AWAY BY NOW. WELL I SAVED BUCK ROGERS'S DISPATCHES, B-BUT WHAT AM I GOING TO DO? CAN I MAKE MONGOLIA? WILL MY ROCKET MOTOR FUEL LAST?

WHAT DID HAPPEN TO ME ALONE OVER THE VAST EXpanse OF THE PACIFIC? I WILL TELL YOU NEXT WEEK. *Buddy*

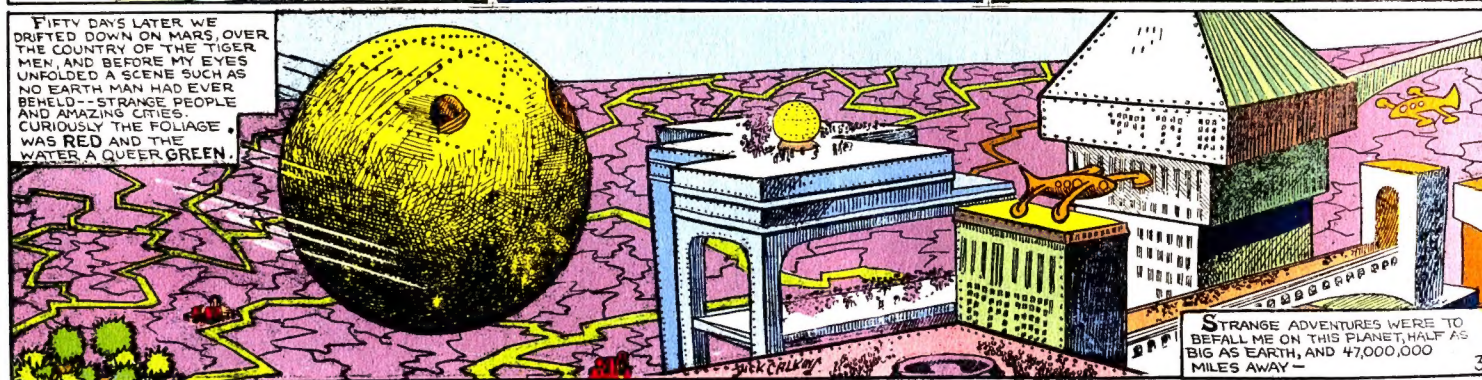
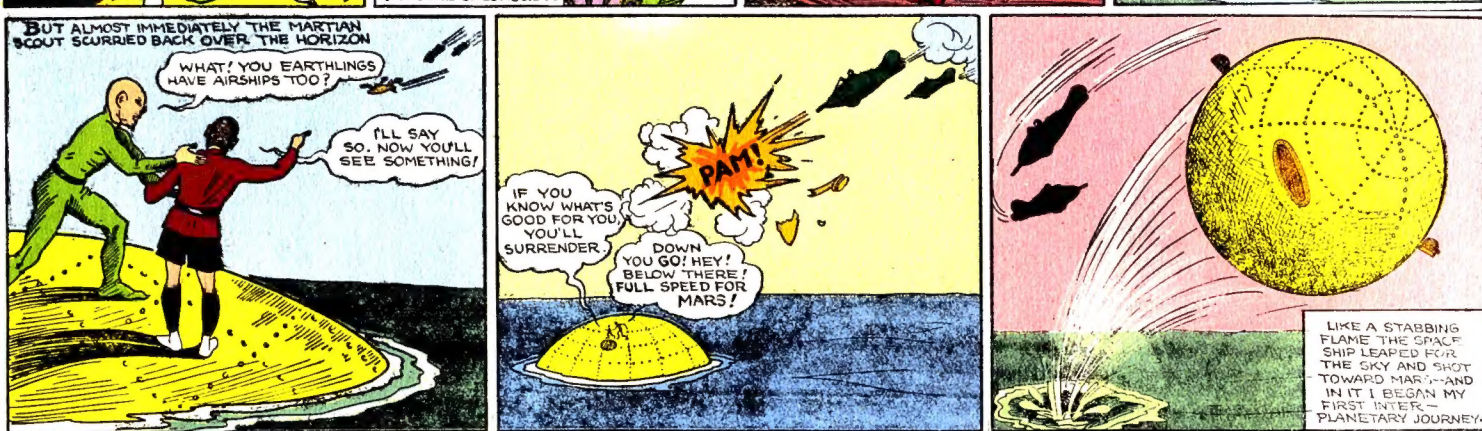
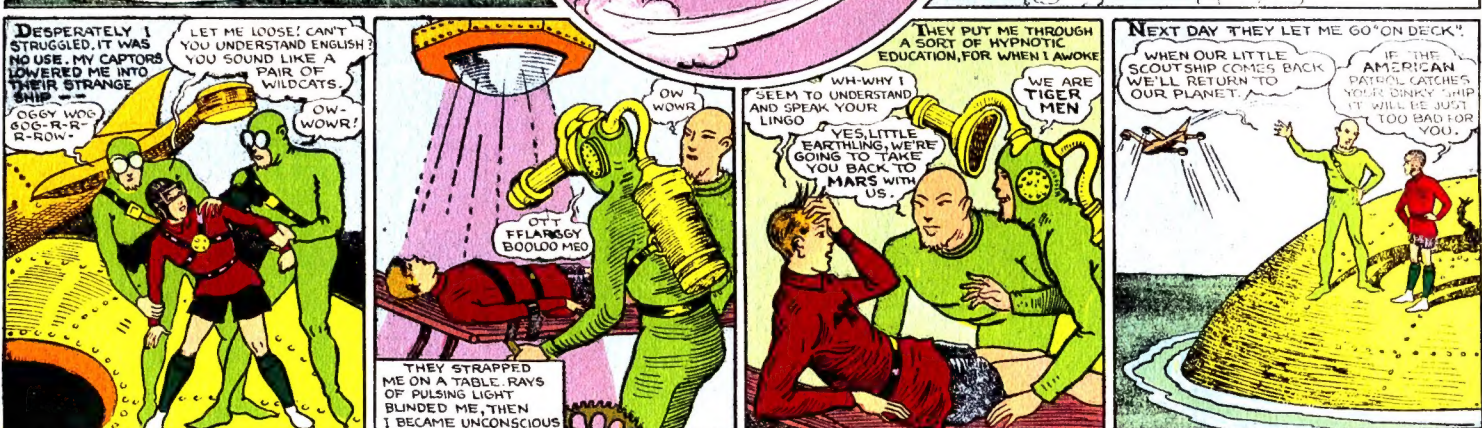
The Strange Comet

Buddy
Dearing

- THESE MEN
WERE LIKE NO
RACE ON EARTH.
FROM WHENCE HAD
THEY COME?



Whisked Off To Mars



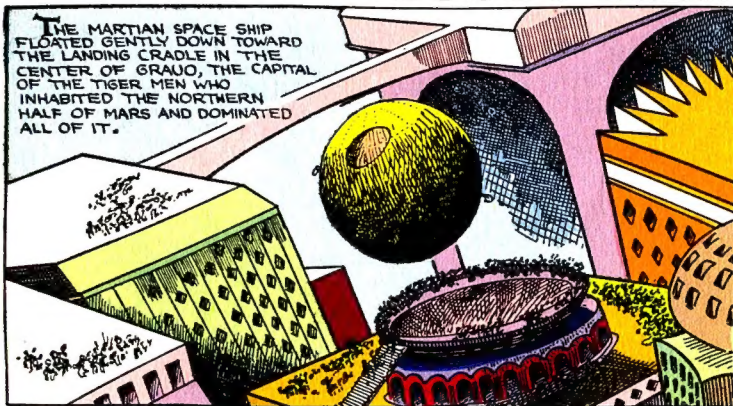
BUDDY DEERING'S OWN STORY

WILMA IS MY SISTER AND BUCK ROGERS IS MY FRIEND. I INVENTED A FLYING BELT, AND THIS LED ME INTO A SERIES OF THRILLING ADVENTURES. TIGER MEN FROM MARS CAPTURED AND TOOK ME IN THEIR SPACE SHIP TO THAT DISTANT PLANET--WHERE WE WERE ABOUT TO LAND--

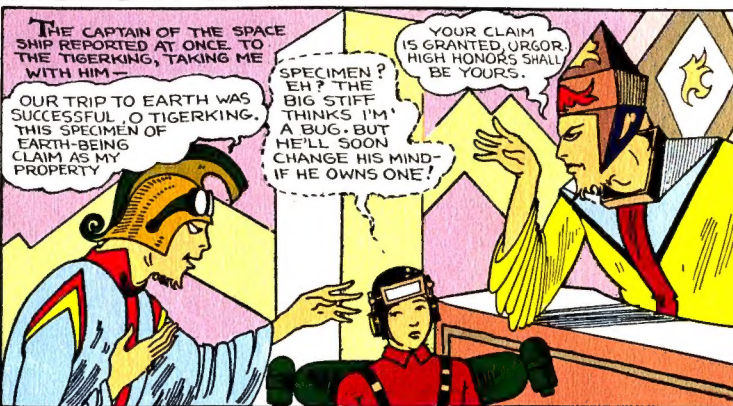


BY BILL WELHAM AND DICK CALKINS

BUDDY DEERING ON MARS



THE MARTIAN SPACE SHIP FLOATED GENTLY DOWN TOWARD THE LANDING CRADLE IN THE CENTER OF GRAUO, THE CAPITAL OF THE TIGER MEN WHO INHABITED THE NORTHERN HALF OF MARS AND DOMINATED ALL OF IT.



THE CAPTAIN OF THE SPACE SHIP REPORTED AT ONCE TO THE TIGERKING, TAKING ME WITH HIM--

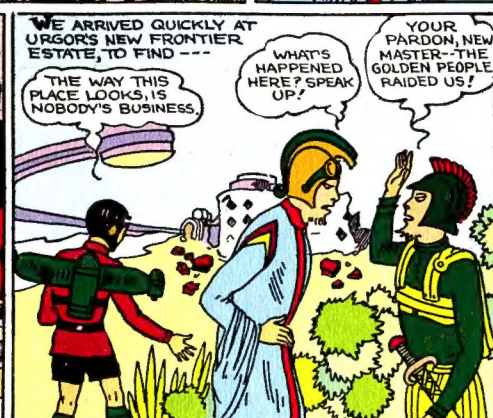
OUR TRIP TO EARTH WAS SUCCESSFUL. O TIGERKING, THIS SPECIMEN OF EARTH-BEING CLAIM AS MY PROPERTY

SPECIMEN? EH? THE BIG STIFF THINKS I'M A BUG BUT HE'LL SOON CHANGE HIS MIND IF HE OWNS ONE!



URGOR WAS REWARDED WITH ESTATES ON THE EDGE OF THE GREAT EQUATORIAL DESERT, ACROSS WHICH THE GOLDEN PEOPLE SOMETIMES MADE RAIDS--

THEIR RAIDS ARE MERE RIOTOUS OUTBREAKS. I WILL SOON STOP THEM. YOU SHALL GO WITH ME.



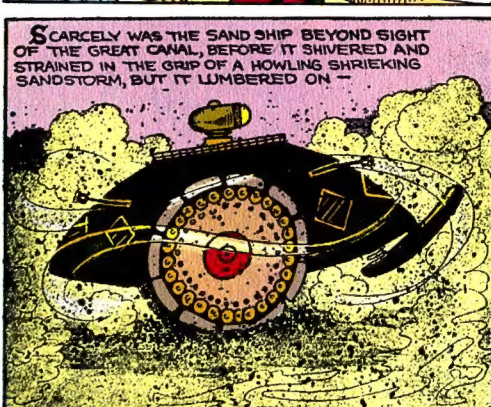
WE ARRIVED QUICKLY AT URGOR'S NEW FRONTIER ESTATE, TO FIND---

THE WAY THIS PLACE LOOKS, IS NOBODY'S BUSINESS. WHAT'S HAPPENED HERE? SPEAK UP!

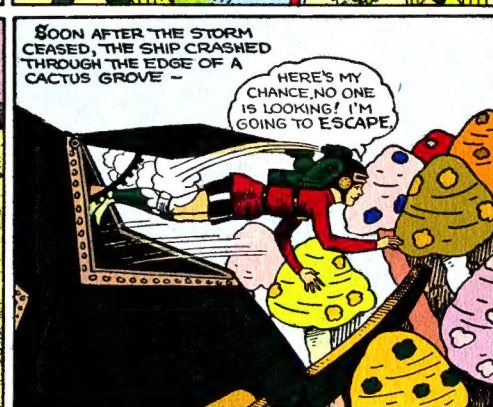


URGOR ORDERED OUT A SAND SHIP AT ONCE FOR A COUNTER RAID--

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOUR AIRSHIP? WHY DON'T YOU USE THAT?



SCARCELY WAS THE SAND SHIP BEYOND SIGHT OF THE GREAT CANAL, BEFORE IT SHIVERED AND STRAINED IN THE GRIP OF A HOWLING SHRIEKING SANDSTORM, BUT IT LUMBERED ON--



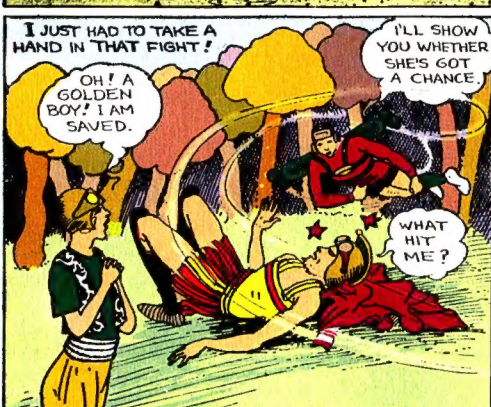
SOON AFTER THE STORM CEASED, THE SHIP CRASHED THROUGH THE EDGE OF A CACTUS GROVE--

HERE'S MY CHANCE, NO ONE IS LOOKING! I'M GOING TO ESCAPE



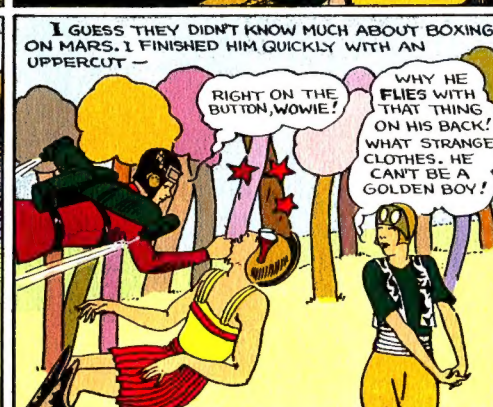
IT WASN'T A LARGE CACTUS GROVE BUT IN IT I CAME UPON--

WILL NOT SURRENDER! I AM A KING'S DAUGHTER. I WON'T BE A SLAVE OF THE TIGER-MEN



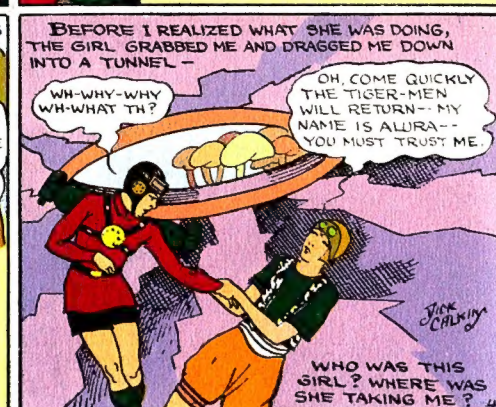
I JUST HAD TO TAKE A HAND IN THAT FIGHT!

OH! A GOLDEN BOY! I AM SAVED.



I GUESS THEY DIDN'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT BOXING ON MARS. I FINISHED HIM QUICKLY WITH AN UPPERCUT--

RIGHT ON THE BUTT, WOWIE!



BEFORE I REALIZED WHAT SHE WAS DOING, THE GIRL GRABBED ME AND DRAGGED ME DOWN INTO A TUNNEL--

WH-WHY-WHY WH-WHAT TH?

DICK CALKINS

DEAR READER:- WHEN I INVENTED MY FLYING BELT I STARTED AN AMAZING SERIES OF ADVENTURES. FLYING ALONE OVER THE OCEAN I WAS CAPTURED BY TIGER MEN FROM MARS AND TAKEN TO THAT DISTANT PLANET, WHERE I ESCAPED FROM THEM AND RESCUED A GIRL OF THE GOLDEN RACE, NAMED ALURA, WHO HID WITH ME IN A TUNNEL UNDER THE MARTIAN DESERT. NOW HERE'S WHAT HAPPENED NEXT — YOURS,

Buddy Deering

BUCKERS ROGERS

2430 A.D.

AND DICK CALKINS

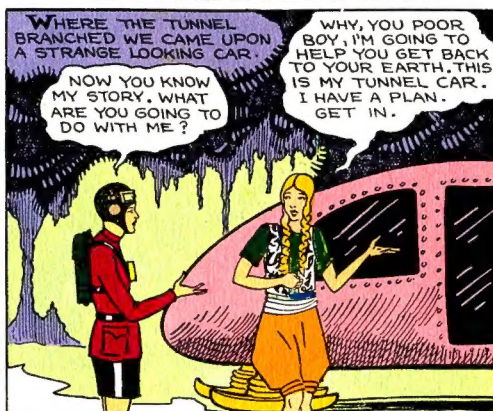
THE ESCAPE FROM MARS



HULLO! WHAT'S THIS?

STAND ASIDE I SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS STRANGER.

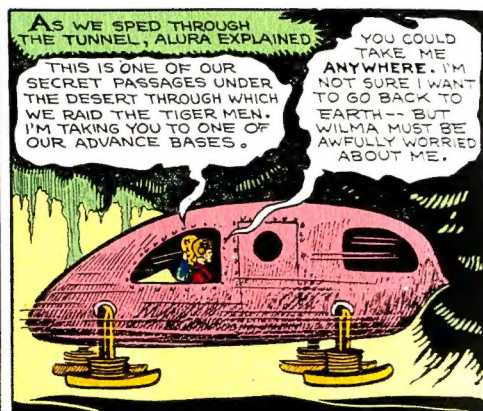
SO BE IT, KING'S DAUGHTER!



WHERE THE TUNNEL BRANCHED WE CAME UPON A STRANGE LOOKING CAR.

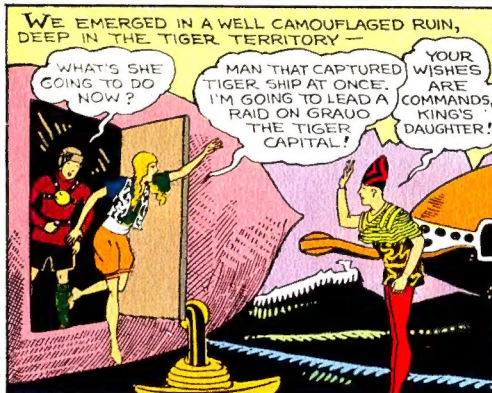
NOW YOU KNOW MY STORY. WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH ME?

WHY, YOU POOR BOY, I'M GOING TO HELP YOU GET BACK TO YOUR EARTH. THIS IS MY TUNNEL CAR. I HAVE A PLAN. GET IN.



THIS IS ONE OF OUR SECRET PASSAGES UNDER THE DESERT THROUGH WHICH WE RAID THE TIGER MEN. I'M TAKING YOU TO ONE OF OUR ADVANCE BASES.

YOU COULD TAKE ME ANYWHERE. I'M NOT SURE I WANT TO GO BACK TO EARTH -- BUT WILMA MUST BE AWFULLY WORRIED ABOUT ME.



WE EMERGED IN A WELL CAMOUFLAGED RUIN, DEEP IN THE TIGER TERRITORY.

WHAT'S SHE GOING TO DO NOW?

MAN THAT CAPTURED TIGER SHIP AT ONCE, I'M GOING TO LEAD A RAID ON GRAVO THE TIGER CAPITAL!

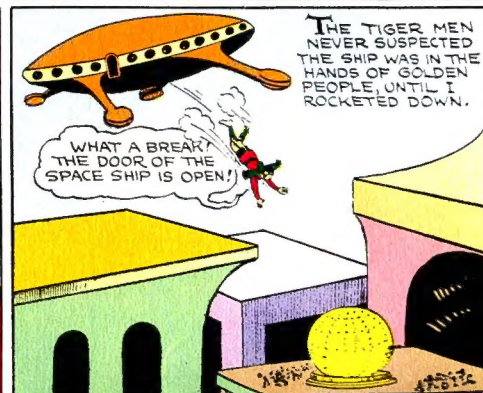
YOUR WISHES ARE COMMANDS, KING'S DAUGHTER!



AS WE SPED ON TOWARD THE TIGER CAPITAL

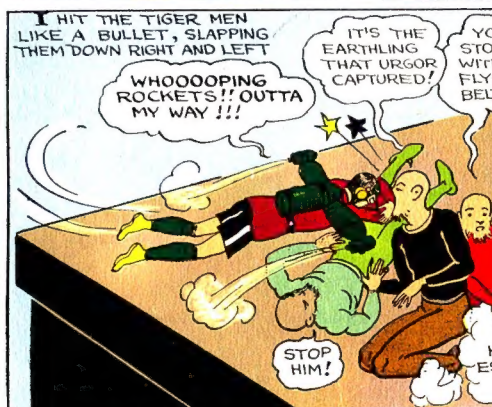
TAKE THIS TELERADIO SET, BUDDY. YOU CAN TALK TO ME FROM EARTH WITH IT. WILL YOU CALL UP SOMETIMES.

SAY, YOU'RE A PEACH! YOU BET I WILL.



THE TIGER MEN NEVER SUSPECTED THE SHIP WAS IN THE HANDS OF GOLDEN PEOPLE UNTIL IT ROCKETED DOWN.

WHAT A BREAK! THE DOOR OF THE SPACE SHIP IS OPEN!



I HIT THE TIGER MEN LIKE A BULLET, SLAPPING THEM DOWN RIGHT AND LEFT

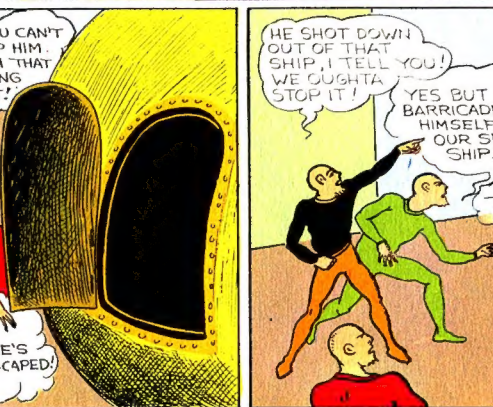
WHOOOPIING ROCKETS!! OUTTA MY WAY !!!

IT'S THE EARTHLING THAT URGOR CAPTURED!

YOU CAN'T STOP HIM WITH THAT FLYING BELT!

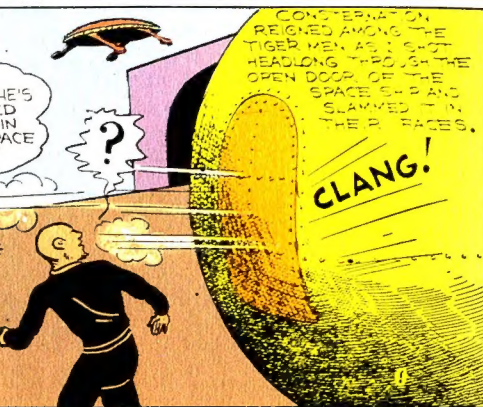
STOP HIM!

HE'S ESCAPED!



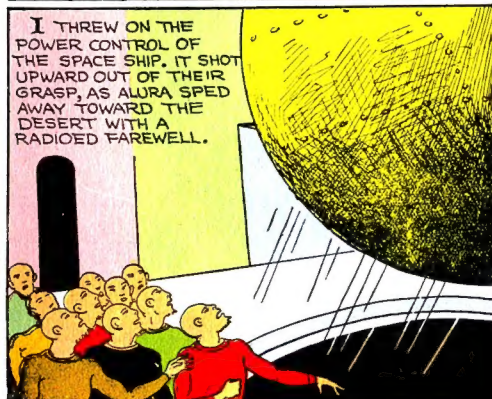
HE SHOT DOWN OUT OF THAT SHIP, I TELL YOU! WE OUGHTA STOP IT!

YES BUT HE'S BARRICADED HIMSELF IN OUR SPACE SHIP!



CONSTERNATION REIGNED AMONG THE TIGER MEN AS I SHOT HEADLONG THROUGH THE OPEN DOOR OF THE SPACE SHIP AND SLAMMED IT IN THE R. FACES.

CLANG!

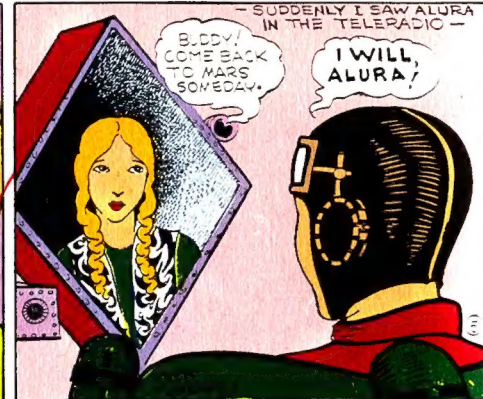


I THREW ON THE POWER CONTROL OF THE SPACE SHIP. IT SHOT UPWARD OUT OF THEIR GRASP, AS ALURA SPED AWAY TOWARD THE DESERT WITH A RADIOED FAREWELL.



IT WAS BUT A MATTER OF MINUTES BEFORE I WAS HURLING THE SPACE SHIP AWAY FROM MARS

THAT GREEN STAR OVER THERE LOOKS LIKE EARTH. I WONDER IF IT IS. WELL, I'LL HAVE TO TAKE A CHANCE



SUDDENLY I SAW ALURA IN THE TELERADIO

BUDDY, COME BACK TO MARS SOMEDAY.

I WILL, ALURA!

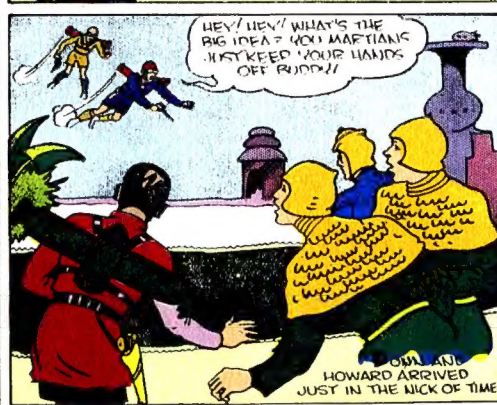
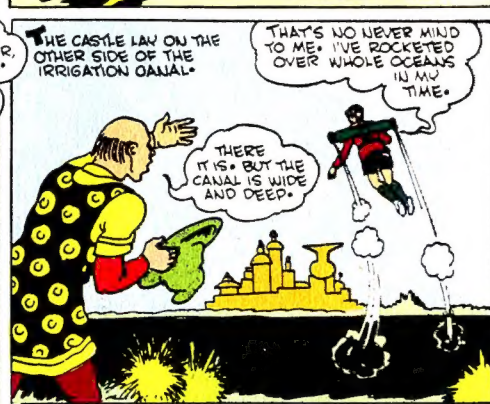
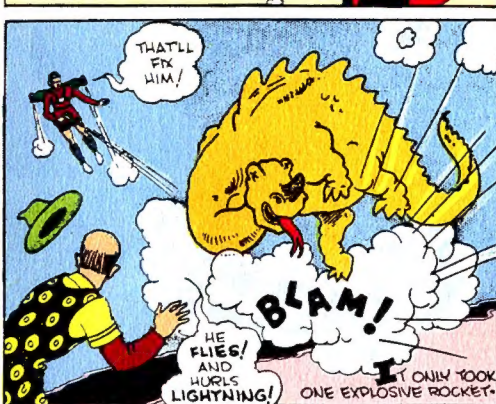
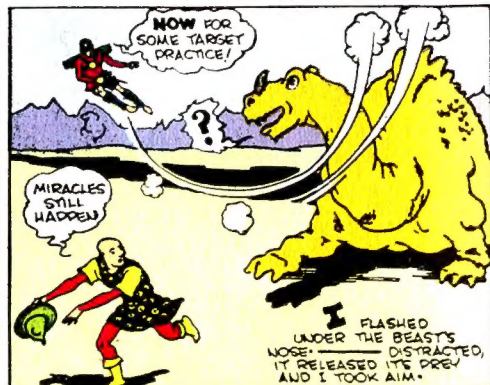
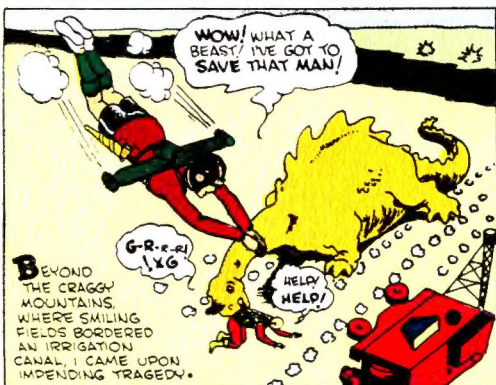
DEAR READER:
AFTER A LONG AND LONELY VOYAGE FROM MARS, I REACHED EARTH. NO RADIO MESSAGE HAD COME TO ME ACROSS THE EMPTINESS OF SPACE FROM AURA, THE MARTIAN PRINCESS, WHO HELPED ME ESCAPE FROM THE TIGER MEN. WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED TO HER? I COULD STAND IT NO LONGER. SO WITH A LITTLE BAND OF ADVENTURERS I AGAIN DROVE THE SPACE SHIP TOWARD THE DISTANT PLANET.
Buddy Daring

BUCK ROGERS

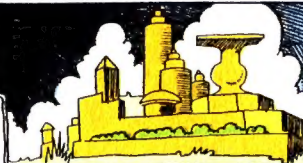
2430 - A.D.

STORY BY PHIL NOBLEMAN
PICTURED BY DICK CALKINS

BUDDY RETURNS TO MARS



DEAR READER:
DRAWN IRREGULARLY
BY THE MYSTERIES OF MARS
AND THE GUESS OF THE
GOLDEN PRINCESS ALURA
WHO HAD PROMISED TO
COMMUNICATE WITH ME ACROSS
THE VOID OF SPACE BY RADIO,
I RETURNED TO THE RED
PLANET WITH A LITTLE BAND
OF ADVENTURERS. WE LANDED
IN THE TERRITORY OF DUKE LITZPAN WHO, WHEN I TOLD HIM
I WAS HUNTING FOR ALURA, WAS ABOUT TO HAVE ME ARRESTED.
THE ARRIVAL OF MY COMPANIONS WITH THEIR ROCKET PISTOLS
MADE HIM CHANGE HIS MIND SUDDENLY.

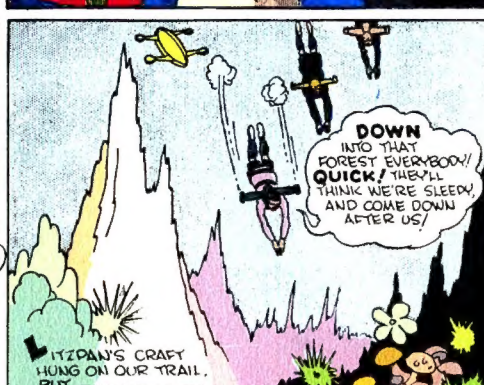
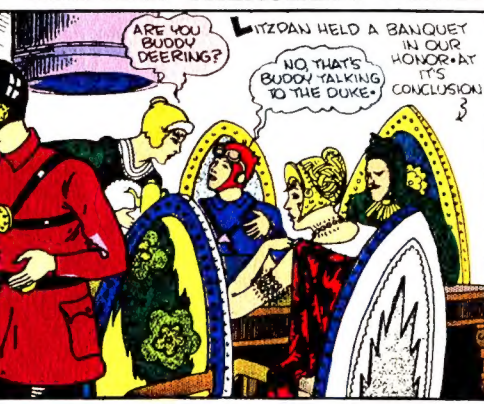
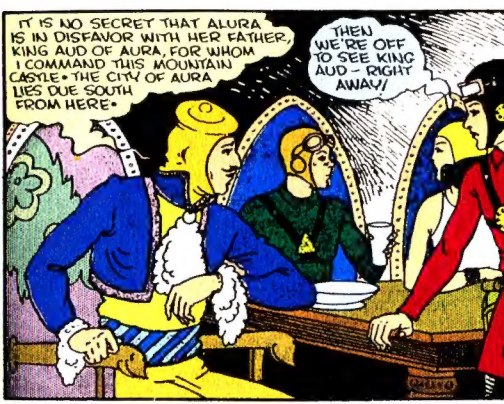


BUCK ROGERS

2430 A.D.

BY PHIL NOWLAN & DICK CALKINS

MARTIAN TREACHERY FOILED



DEAR READER:
OUTDISTANCING THE AIRCRAFT OF THE DUKE LITZPAN, WHO HAD TRIED TREACHEROUSLY TO CAPTURE US, WE SPED SOUTHWARD THROUGH THE MARTIAN NIGHT TOWARD AURA, THE CAPITAL OF KING AUD, SEEKING THE GOLDEN PRINCESS ALURA, HIS DAUGHTER.

Buddy Deering

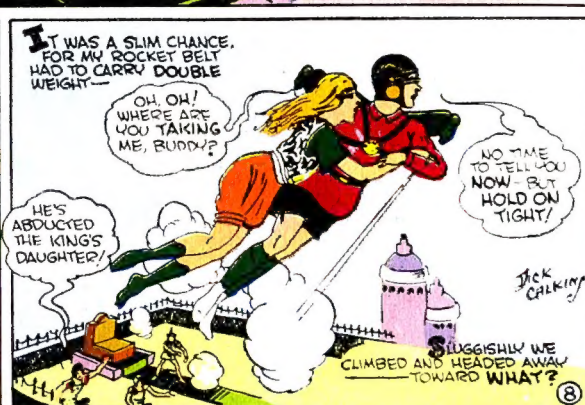
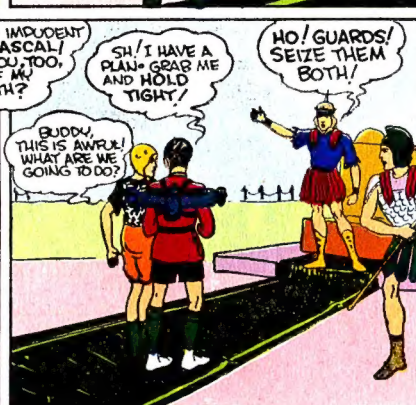
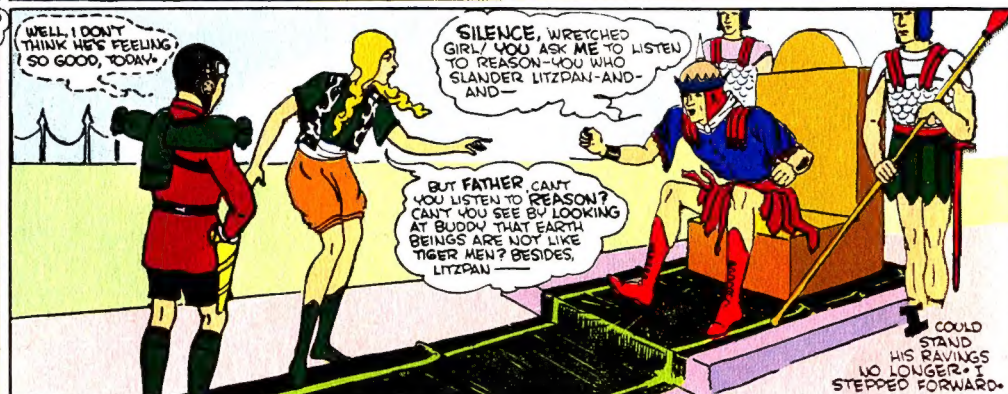
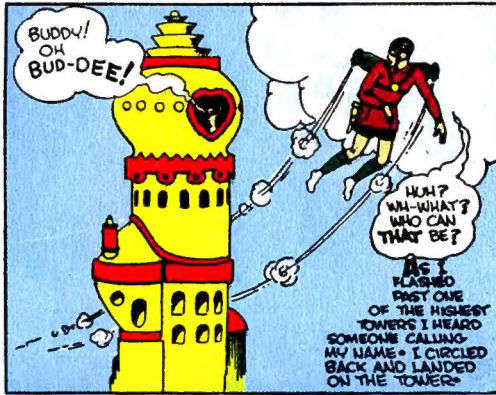
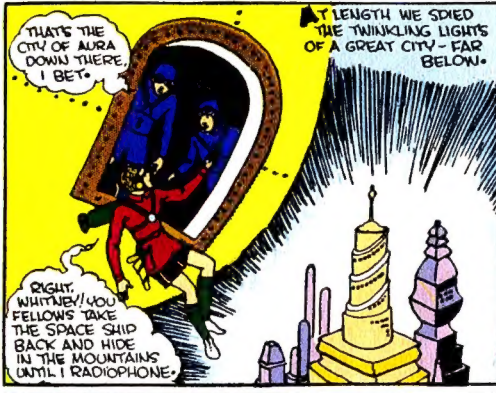
IN THE YEAR
2430
A.D.

Buck Rogers

WRITTEN BY
PHIL NOWLAN

PICTURED BY
DICK CALKINS

THE RESCUE OF THE GOLDEN PRINCESS



BUCK ROGERS

2430 A.D.

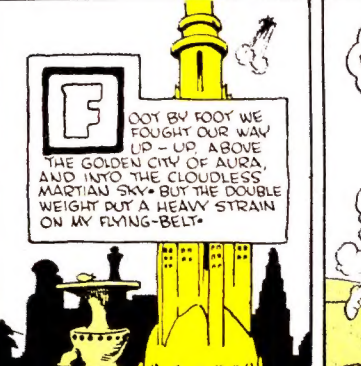
THE MYSTERIOUS GROUND-BORERS

Dear Reader

The adventures of my companions and myself on Mars have been very exciting. After escaping from Duke Striplin, who sought to betray the Golden People to the Tiger-men of the North, I rescued Olvera from her father, King Aura, who had refused to believe her accusations against Striplin and threatened to imprison us both.

Yours
Buddy Deering

I'll now and then chuckle



FOOT BY FOOT WE FOUGHT OUR WAY UP - UP, ABOVE THE GOLDEN CITY OF AURA, AND INTO THE CLOUDLESS MARTIAN SKY. BUT THE DOUBLE WEIGHT PUT A HEAVY STRAIN ON MY FLYING-BELT.



WHATEVER YOU DO, BUDDY, DON'T DROP ME!

NO FEAR OF THAT! WHAT WORRIES ME IS THAT WE'RE MAKING NO SPEED!



WE WERE STILL IN SIGHT OF THE CITY WHEN—

AND WE'LL NEED SPEED! THE AIR PATROL IS AFTER US!

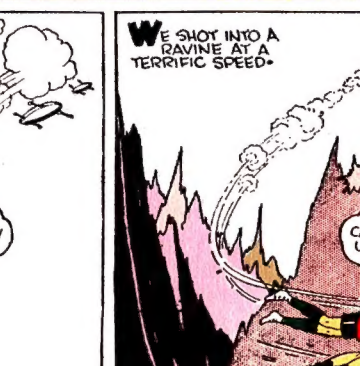
MAYBE I CAN GET IT BY DIVING! HOLD TIGHT!



DOWN WE CAME LIKE A METEOR, ON A LONG SLANT.

MAYBE WE CAN HIDE IN THESE MOUNTAINS.

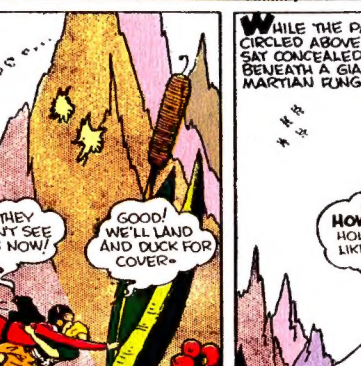
OH/OH! I CAN'T GET MY BREATH!



WE SHOT INTO A RAVINE AT A TERRIFIC SPEED.

THEY CAN'T SEE US NOW!

GOOD! WE'LL LAND AND DUCK FOR COVER.



WHILE THE PATROL CIRCLED ABOVE, WE SAT CONCEALED BENEATH A GIANT MARTIAN FUNGUS.

EASY! YOU ONLY WEIGH ONE-THIRD AS MUCH ON MARS AS YOU WOULD ON EARTH.

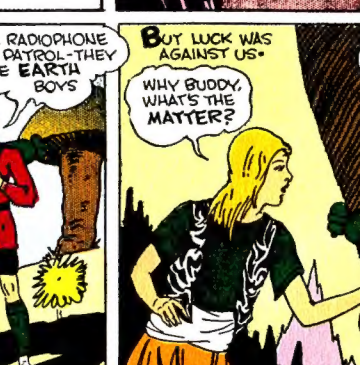
BUDDY, HOW COULD YOU HOLD MY WEIGHT LIKE YOU DID?



AT LENGTH THE AIR PATROL ABANDONED THE SEARCH. WE CLIMBED THE RAVINE.

COULD WE RISK FLYING NOW? I'M HUNGRY!

I'LL RADIOPHONE MY PATROL-THEY ARE EARTH BOYS.



BUT LUCK WAS AGAINST US.

WHY, BUDDY, WHAT'S THE MATTER?

M-MY RADIOPHONE HAS GONE DEAD! I CAN'T SIGNAL THEM!



SUDDENLY A NOISE GREW FROM UNDER GROUND INTO A GRINDING, TEARING ROAR, AND—

GR-R-R-RR—

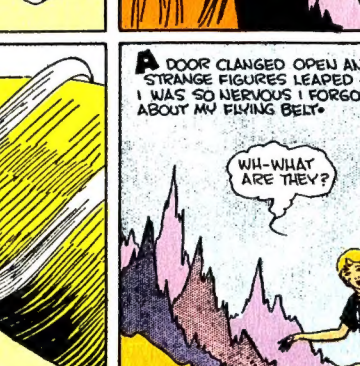
LOOK OUT, AURA! BEHIND YOU!



A GREAT CYLINDRICAL BORING MACHINE ROSE OUT OF THE GROUND!

THAT'S WHAT IT IS, ALL RIGHT! BUT WHO'S RUNNING IT? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

LET'S WAIT A MINUTE TO FIND OUT!



A DOOR CLANGED OPEN AND STRANGE FIGURES LEAPED OUT. I WAS SO NERVOUS I FORGOT ABOUT MY FLYING BELT.

WH-WHAT ARE THEY?

I DON'T KNOW! BUT THEY'RE AFTER US ALL RIGHT! AND MY ROCKET GUN IS JAMMED!



WAS ESCAPE POSSIBLE?

DEAR READER: I HAD FLOWN OFF WITH ALMA FROM AOWA, THE CITY OF THE GOLDEN RACE OF MARS... TO ESCAPE THE ANGERS OF THE LATHES, KING AOW-WE HAD FLOWN TO THE "HINKS" AIR VEHICLE, BUT SOMEBODY HAD BEEN CONSIDERED BY A KANGAROO ATTEMPTED ALMA WHO HAD COME UP OUT OF THE GROUND IN A HUMBLE FLYING MACHINE - WE WENT TO OUR FATES, AND THAT WAS WHY HAD I DIED!

Buddy Deering

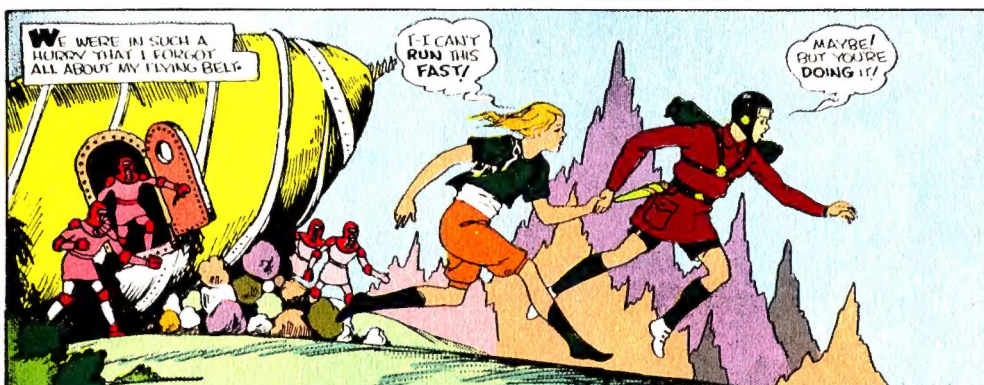


BUCK ROGERS

PHIL NOWLAN AND DICK CALKINS

2430 A.D.

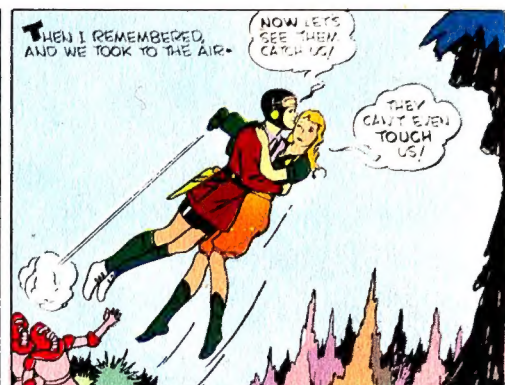
THE UNDERGROUND PASSAGE



WE WERE IN SUCH A HURRY THAT I FORGOT ALL ABOUT MY FLYING BELT!

I-I CAN'T RUN THIS FAST!

MAYBE! BUT YOU'RE DOING IT!



THEN I REMEMBERED, AND WE TOOK TO THE AIR!

NOW LET'S SEE IF THEY CAN'T US!

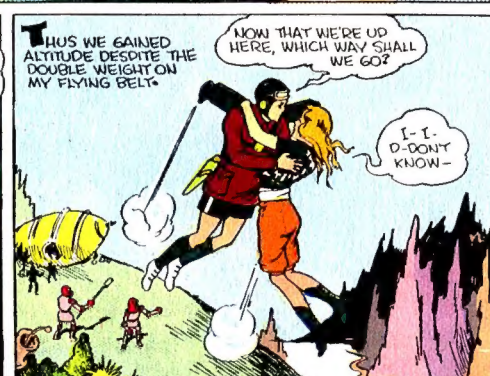
THEY CAN'T EVEN TOUCH US!



BUT ONE MANAGED TO BRING HIS FORCE RAY TO BEAR, AND HURLED US UPWARD.

OOF!

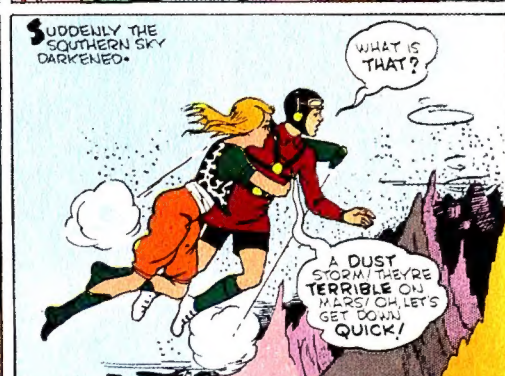
I FORGOT ABOUT THEIR RAY GUNS!



THUS WE GAINED ALTITUDE DESPITE THE DOUBLE WEIGHT ON MY FLYING BELT.

NOW THAT WE'RE UP HERE, WHICH WAY SHALL WE GO?

I-I-D-DON'T KNOW-



SUDDENLY THE SOUTHERN SKY DARKENED.

WHAT IS THAT?

A DUST STORM! THEY'RE TERRIBLE ON MARS! OH LET'S GET DOWN QUICK!



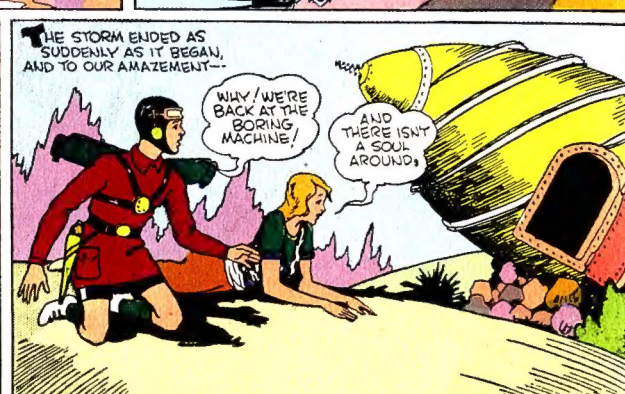
BEFORE I COULD REACH THE GROUND, THE WALL OF DUST SWEEPED DOWN ON US.

IT'S GOT US!

WE'LL BE BLINDED!



WE WERE WHIRLED DOWN - WE KNEW NOT WHERE.



THE STORM ENDED AS SUDDENLY AS IT BEGAN, AND TO OUR AMAZEMENT--

WHY WERE WE BACK AT THE BORING MACHINE!

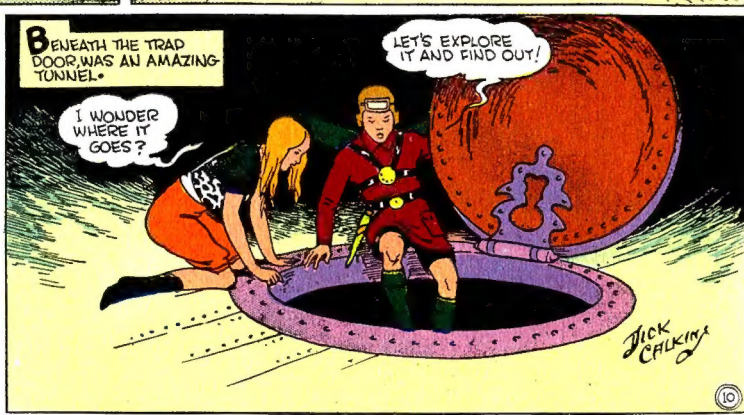
AND THERE ISN'T A SOUL AROUND.



CAUTIOUSLY WE INSPECTED THE MACHINE.

BE CAREFUL, BUDDY! ANYONE IN THERE?

NOPE. BUT THERE'S A TRAP DOOR IN THE FLOOR - MAYBE WE CAN HIDE THERE.

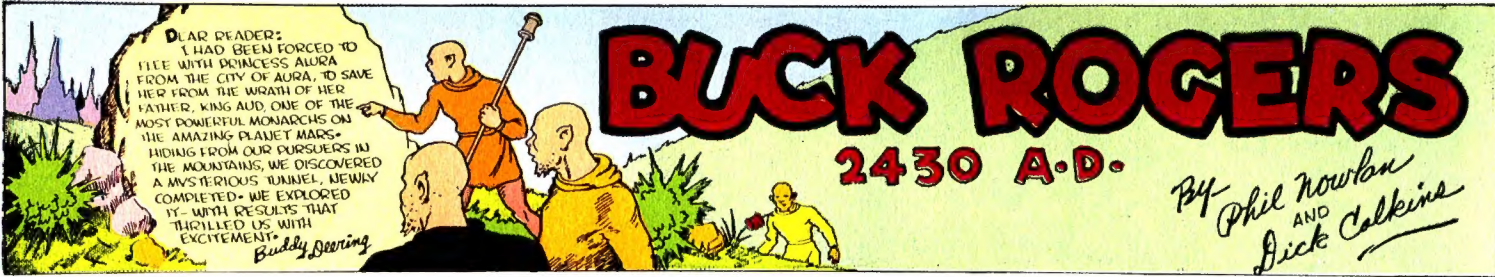


BENEATH THE TRAP DOOR WAS AN AMAZING TUNNEL.

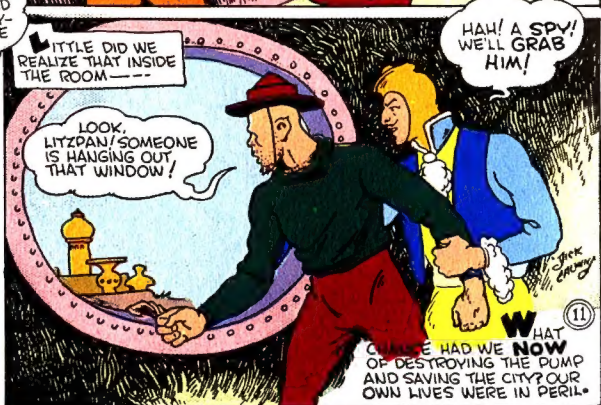
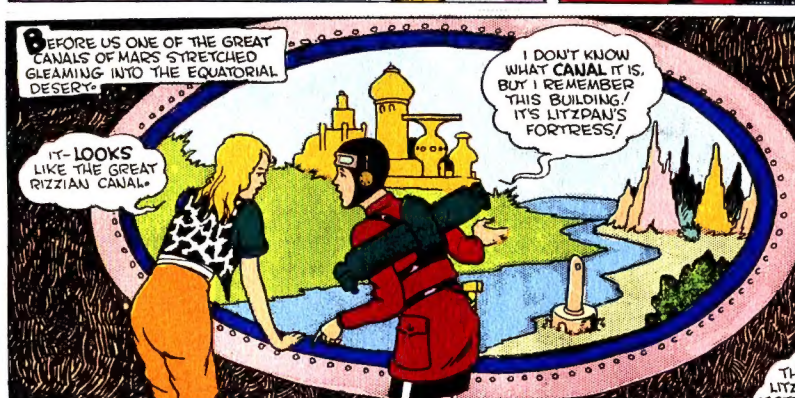
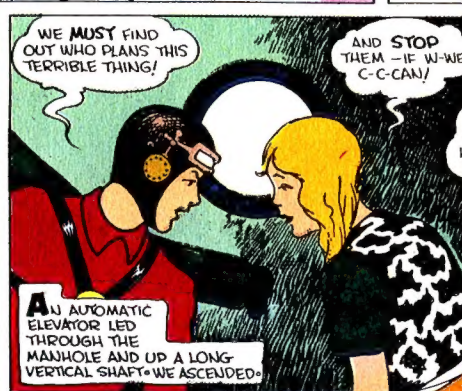
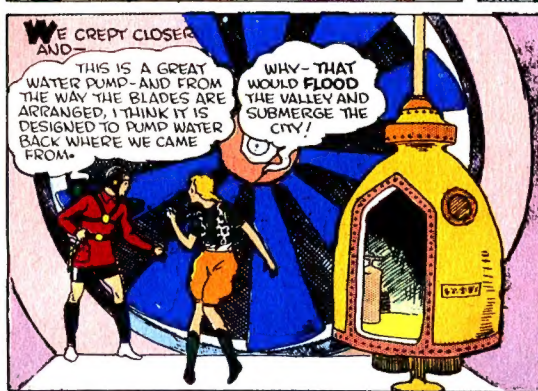
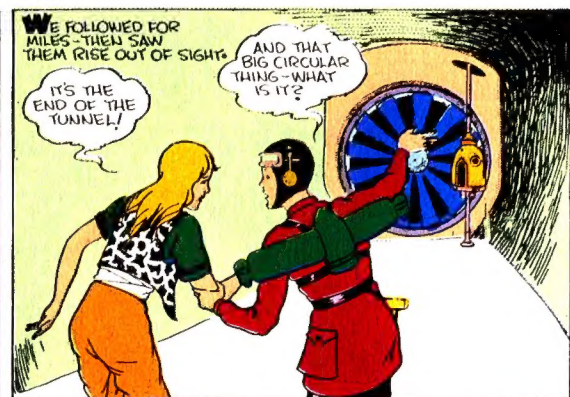
I WONDER WHERE IT GOES?

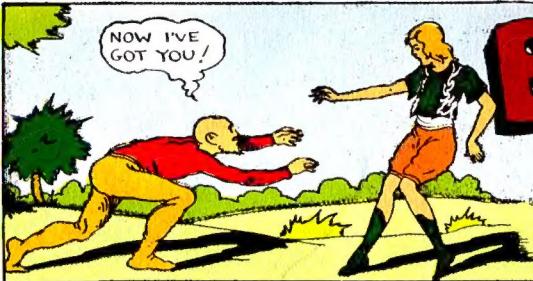
LET'S EXPLORE IT AND FIND OUT!

DICK CALKINS



INTO THE TRAITOR'S CLUTCHES





BUCK ROGERS

2430 A.D.

By Phil Nowlan
and Dick Calkins

DEAR READER:
PRINCESS ALURA AND I DISCOVERED A GREAT
TUNNEL THROUGH WHICH LITZPAN, THE TRAITOR, AND
THE TIGER MEN, PLANNED TO FLOOD THE GOLDEN CITY
OF AURA. WE HAD FLED FROM THE CITY TO ESCAPE
THE WRATH OF KING AUD, ALURA'S FATHER. THE TUNNEL
LED INTO LITZPAN'S FORTRESS WHERE WE WERE TRAPPED.
—Buddy Deering

THE CAPTURE OF LITZPAN

